

In re Application of Palevich et al.  
Serial No. 09/590,970

### REMARKS

The Office action has been carefully considered. Claims 1-3, 5-12 and 27 are now pending in this application. The Office action objected to claim 4 as being dependent on a rejected base claim but indicated that the subject matter of this claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By present amendment, claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 4 (claim 4 has been canceled as duplicative) and claims 13-26 have been canceled. As such, claim 1 is allowable as indicated in the Office action, and all of the remaining claims which are dependent on claim 1 are thus also allowable.

Applicants submit that the claims as filed were patentable over the prior art of record, and that the amendments herein are for the purpose of expediting allowance of the claims and not for reasons related to patentability.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

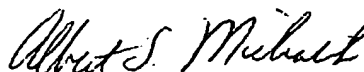
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### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-3, 5-12 and 27 are patentable over the prior art of record, and that the application is good and proper form for allowance. A favorable action on the part of the Examiner is earnestly solicited.

If in the opinion of the Examiner a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (425) 836-3030.

Respectfully submitted,



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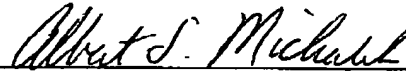
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this Amendment, along with transmittal and facsimile cover sheet, are being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.6(d) on the date shown below:

Date: June 16, 2004

  
Albert S. Michalik

2520 Amendment